

# 75<sup>th</sup> Rio Vista Bass Derby Official Rules and Regulations October 13, 14 and 15, 2023

## ***“Target Length” Striped Bass & “Target Length” Sturgeon***

1. **When is the Derby?** Oct. 13, 14 and 15, 2023. This is a 3-day event. Fishing starts at 6 a.m. on Friday, October 13, 2023, and continues day and night until Sunday, October 15, 2023 at 3 p.m.
2. **How to Purchase Tickets to Enter?** Each angler in the Adult derby must be 16 years or older and have purchased a registration ticket by 5:30am on Friday, October 13, 2023 for \$50.

### ***Ticket Purchase Locations:***

**Rio Vista Chamber of Commerce: By mail or in person:** Rio Vista Chamber of Commerce, 33 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Rio Vista, CA 94571. Tickets may be reserved for pick up at the Rio Vista Chamber of Commerce Office by calling (707) 374-2700. **Cut off at this location is 5pm on Thursday, October 12.**

**Dedicated Bait Shop & Other Locations:** Select Bait Shops will be selling tickets until Thursday, October 12 at their close of business. See [www.bassfestival.com](http://www.bassfestival.com) for locations. Tickets at these locations may not be available until 6 weeks before the event. **Cut off at these locations is close of business Thursday, Oct 12<sup>th</sup>.**

**Online:** [www.bassfestival.com](http://www.bassfestival.com). **Cut off is October 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30am.**

Cash, Credit Cards and Checks are accepted for payment. Derby registration tickets are non-transferable and non-refundable.

### 3. **Tickets Available for Purchase**

**ADULT TICKETS: \$50.00** - Each participating angler must purchase a ticket. Hats are limited to the first 300 – first come, first served.

**KIDS TICKETS: \$10.00** – Each angler must be 15 years of age or younger and can weigh-in Striped Bass or Catfish. The first 50 ticket holders are eligible to receive a “Kids” Derby Hat. The Striped Bass must be a minimum legal size of **18”** and not over **24”**. Winning fish to be closest to **24”**. Catfish can be any size, fish with the top weight & length will be the winner. All other Rio Vista Derby rules and regulations apply. All entries must be caught by the child angler. Adults may not catch the entry and have a child turn it in.

Kids are **NOT** eligible for participation in the Adult Derby. Kids tickets must have the approval of a parent or guardian and be accompanied by them at the Derby while fishing. All participants are required to wear a US Coast Guard Certified Life Jacket while fishing in the Derby.

### 4. **Categories of Fish in the Adult Bass Derby**

**Striped Bass.** The “Target Length” will be selected at the start of the tournament. This measurement will be somewhere from 25 inches to 32 inches **measured from the tip of the nose with the mouth closed, to the fork of the tail.** The angler who enters the Striped Bass closest to the specified length without going over will win the First Place. In case of a tie in the length, the winner will be determined by greatest weight, if that’s the same then by the first Striped Bass weighed in. All CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife regulations apply.

**White Sturgeon.** The “Target Length” will be selected at the start of the tournament. This measurement will be from 40 inches to 60 inches **measured from the tip of the nose to the fork of the tail.** The angler who enters the sturgeon closest to the specified length without going over will win First Place. In case of a tie in the length, the winner will be determined by the greatest weight. If that’s the same, then by the first sturgeon weighed in. All sturgeon anglers must have a sturgeon report card and all sturgeon **must be tagged at the time of the catch and brought to the Weigh-In Station with tag attached.**

Each person fishing for WHITE sturgeon must pay for, and have in their possession at the time of the tournament, a Sturgeon Fishing Report Card, and they complete it in accordance with CDFW regulations. Punching out the month and date on the tag as now required by the Fish and Game Commission. Sturgeon regulations available on <http://www.eregulations.com/california/fishing/freshwater/sturgeon-regulations>.

**The recreational California ocean salmon fishery is CLOSED IN ALL REGIONS, therefore Salmon will not be included in the 2023 Rio Vista Bass Derby. Please plan accordingly to fish one of our other categories, Striped Bass or Sturgeon for the Adult Derby and Striped Bass or Catfish for the Kids Derby.**

5. **Where Can I Fish?**

Anglers may fish from San Francisco Bay to Sacramento. All fish must be weighed in at the Official Weigh Station at 1 Main Street, in Rio Vista. **Check the weigh in times below in paragraph #9!!**

6. **How to Find Out the “Target Length”?**

The target Length will be posted at 6 a.m. on Friday, October 13, 2023 on the Facebook page, “Rio Vista Bass Derby & Festival”, and the webpage: [www.bassfestival.com](http://www.bassfestival.com). You may also tune in to Bob Simms Outdoor Report Friday morning on KBFK 1530 AM & 93.1 FM 10 minutes prior to the 6 a.m. newscast. The target length will also be announced during the Bob Simms Outdoor Show Saturday morning Oct. 14, 2023 on KBFK 1530 AM & 93.1 FM from 5 AM to 8 AM. All participating Bait Shops will also post the “Target Lengths”.

7. **How do I Measure My Fish?**

**Striped Bass will be measured from the tip of the nose, with the mouth closed, to the fork of the tail.**

**Sturgeon will be measured from the tip of the nose to the fork of the tail.**

8. **What to Know about the Weigh-In**

All fish entered in the Bass Derby must be measured and weighed in at the Official Weigh-In Station, located at **1 Main Street in Rio Vista**. The California Striped Bass Association Isleton Delta Chapter is the official Weigh Master of the 2023 Rio Vista Bass Derby.

Each angler must present his or her own fish for measurement and weigh-in. The angler will provide the Weigh Master with information as to when and where the fish was caught. All anglers must present their numbered Derby ticket along with their Fishing license and Sturgeon Report Card (if applicable) and a Government Issued Photo ID at the time of the weigh-in.

Each angler may submit only one fish per category in the derby. Tickets will be marked accordingly, and all fish will be marked for identification purposes.

The Weigh Master and/or official from the Department of Fish and Wildlife reserve the right to retain any fish in order to make a full investigation in any case where the weight or condition of the fish caught is challenged, or there may have been other violations of the derby rules or state and federal laws or breaches of good sportsmanship. The Weigh Master and/or official from the Department of Fish and Wildlife reserve the right to open and inspect any entry. The Rio Vista Chamber of Commerce shall form a committee for any investigation; the committee will include at least one representative from the Rio Vista Chamber of Commerce. This committee reserves the right to reject any entry. Their decisions will be final. All anglers must conform to all California Department of Fish and Wildlife and U.S. Coast Guard rules and regulations. In addition, any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this contract, or the breach of this contract, shall be settled by arbitration at the participant’s expense. Additionally, all boating shall be done in accordance with the State of California & US Coast Guard rules and regulations. All occupants must wear a life-saving floatation device while fishing in the Derby.

***In case of an emergency call 911 or the US Coast Guard Station Rio Vista (707) 374-2871.***

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS FOR CONTESTANTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CA DEPT of FISH AND WILDLIFE**

**Regarding Quagga and Zebra Mussels**

Tournament organizations and participants must comply with all federal, state, and local laws, regulations and ordinances pertaining to the spread of Quagga Mussels (QM) and Zebra Mussels (ZM).

1. On the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, tournament organizations (Permittees) must ensure vessels are clean and free from QM/ZM before the tournament.
2. Anglers in a vessel not clean and dry or with QM/ZM attached cannot participate in the tournament.

9. **When are the Weigh-in Times?**

Friday, October 13, 2023	9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 14, 2023	9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 15, 2023	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

10. **How to Get to the Official Weigh-in Station – Rio Vista City Boat Launch**

Official weigh station is located at **1 Main Street** – Next to city hall and a short walk from the Rio Vista Boat Launch.

**By Car.** When entering Rio Vista on Highway 12, turn south at the Shell Station (5<sup>th</sup> Street). Proceed on 5<sup>th</sup> Street until it dead ends at Montezuma Avenue. Turn left. Proceed to Front Street, another dead end. Turn left for 30 feet or so. Turn right into the city launch and parking lot. Park there (while your fish is weighed in) and walk to the weigh station at 1 Main Street.

11. **What are the Prizes**

**ADULT DERBY PRIZES**  
**WINNER MUST BE PRESENT TO RECEIVE AWARDS**

**STRIPED BASS**

1<sup>ST</sup> Place - \$4,000  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$1,500  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$1,000

**STURGEON**

1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$1,500  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$600  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$300

Winners are responsible for all state and federal taxes and registration if applicable. Additional Placements will be announced by Aug 30, 2023.

**KID'S FISHING PRIZES**  
**(15 years and younger)**

**STRIPED BASS**

1<sup>ST</sup> Place - \$100 Gift Card  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$75 Gift Card  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$50 Gift Card

**CATFISH**

1<sup>ST</sup> Place - \$100 Gift Card  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$75 Gift Card  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$50 Gift Card

Additional prizes will be based on donations.

The Rio Vista Bass Derby reserves the right to substitute prizes if necessary.

Each year we have been able to offer prizes for almost every entry made into the derby because of generous donations from our sponsors and supporters. We want to encourage the younger generation to learn to fish. We do hold them as accountable as adults to be honest and follow the rules & regulations listed.

12. **Are There Any Other Rules?**

Fishing is at the participant's risk.

Fishing guides under charter are not eligible to enter. However, their clients on charter may enter. All clients on board the vessel must be entered in the Derby.

13. **Where and When are the Awards Presented?**

Awards are to be presented at 4:00 pm on Sunday, October 15, 2023, at the foot of Main Street in front of Rio Vista City Hall. Winners will be posted at [www.bassfestival.com](http://www.bassfestival.com).

**WINNERS MUST BE PRESENT TO RECEIVE THEIR PRIZES.**

Rules are subject to change and will be finalized no later than September 1, 2023.

**City of Rio Vista Boat Launch Pass :**

3 Day Pass for City of Rio Vista Launch Ramp. Limited quantity of 25 available. These passes may be purchased at the Rio Vista Chamber of Commerce / Visitor Center Only. Price to be announced by September 1, 2023.

**California Striped Bass Association Isleton Delta Chapter is the official Weigh Master of the 2023 Rio Vista Bass Derby & Festival. The Rio Vista Chamber of Commerce and CSBA Isleton Chapter have the right to disqualify angler contestants who do not follow the rules & regulations.**